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Scott Admits Lying to FBI About Hearst

NEW YORK, Aug. 16 (UPI) —Walter J. Scott, a key FBI informant in the Patircia Hearst case, said today that he was lying when he said he had seen the fugitive newspaper heiress twice and that his family helped harbor her.

Scott, meeting with a UPI reporter in a Manhattan hotel room, said he had been drinking while taking pain pills and was under pressure from the FBI when he told reporters in Philadelphia Wednesday that he had seen Hearst once at his parents' Las Vegas apartment and again in New York City.

"I don't have the slightest idea if she's in the world or not," he said.

Saying he wished to set the record straight, Scott, 42, retracted virtually all of the earlier statements he made in the presence of four reporters and an FBI agent in a Philadelphia hotel.

These included assertions that his brother, Jack, knew Hearst's whereabouts and had demanded up to $200,000 to turn her in; that his parents had driven her to the East Coast and that the 21-year-old fugitive's father, publisher Randolph A. Hearst, was somehow funneling his daughter money.

"I have no such knowledge," Walter Scott said when questioned on each of these earlier remarks.

In Washington, an FBI spokesman confirmed that Scott had walked away from the protective FBI custody he requested, but the spokesman refused all comment on his other statements.

Jack Scott, a 33-year-old controversial sports figure, and his wife, Micki, have been subpoened to appear before a federal grand jury in Harrisburg, Pa., investigating allegations that Hearst hid last summer at a Pennsylvania farmhouse they rented.